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United Nations Conference on the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects
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Note verbale dated 5 July 2001 from the Permanent Mission of Sweden to the United Nations addressed to the Department for Disarmament Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat, transmitting, in its capacity as Honorary President of the Euro-Atlantic Partnership Council, the EAPC/PfP contribution to the United Nations Conference on the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects

The Permanent Mission of Sweden to the United Nations presents its compliments to the Department for Disarmament Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat and, in Sweden's capacity as Honorary President of the Euro-Atlantic Partnership Council (EAPC), has the honour to forward the written EAPC/Partnership for Peace (PfP) contribution to the United Nations Conference on the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects (see annex). The Permanent Mission of Sweden kindly requests the Secretariat to circulate the attached contribution as a document of the Conference.

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Annex

Euro-Atlantic Partnership Council/Partnership for Peace contribution to the United Nations Conference on the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects

Executive summary

1. Established in 1997, the Euro-Atlantic Partnership Council (EAPC) serves as a multilateral forum, providing the overarching framework for consultations among its 46 member States on a broad range of political and security related issues. EAPC is committed to strengthening and extending peace and stability in the Euro-Atlantic area based on shared values and principles. Taking full account of and complementing the respective activities of other international institutions, EAPC has a comprehensive work programme. This includes addressing the challenges of small arms and light weapons through the EAPC Ad Hoc Working Group on small arms and light weapons.

2. Meeting on a regular basis since 1999, the Ad Hoc Working Group agreed at an early stage that its work should aim at adding value to and supplementing existing activities in order to avoid duplication and overlaps. The Ad Hoc Working Group takes into account the work done in the United Nations, the European Union, the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE), the Wassenaar Arrangement, the South-East European Stability Pact and the activities of concerned non-governmental organizations by inviting experts from those organizations and academic institutions to address its meetings, workshops and seminars. The "added value" of the Ad Hoc Working Group is in its ability to take advantage of and apply NATO/EAPC's specific politico-military knowledge and expertise in particular through the work of the Political-Military Steering Committee on Partnership for Peace. The Ad Hoc Working Group places emphasis on the practical character of its initiatives and their relevance to ongoing efforts in conflict prevention as well as in post-conflict situations.

3. The Ad Hoc Working Group identified three broad areas where there is a significant potential for an enhanced contribution to the challenge of small arms and light weapons and where it is important to share experiences. The first area concerns generic training with development of appropriate dialogue and training on best practices related to logistical standards and procedures, stockpile management and security of storage sites, disposal and destruction of surplus stocks, small arms and light weapons collection and destruction including in the context of peace support operations. The second area covers tailored assistance and cooperation with individual nations. The idea is to assist individual nations, upon request, in structuring, organizing and implementing programmes designed to meet the challenge of small arms and light weapons.

4. These first two areas are addressed within the overall framework of Partnership for Peace and are directed by the Political-Military Steering Committee. This is accomplished by building on current activities and establishing additional ones through the creation of a new Partnership work programme chapter entitled "The Challenge of Small Arms and Light Weapons". In addition, a PfP Trust Fund for the destruction of anti-personnel landmines stockpiles and surplus munitions and small arms and light weapons has been established. Thanks to this Fund, the PfP is now in a position to assist in the destruction of all these items.

5. The third area is one of "best practices" related to the transfer of small arms and light weapons. Given the overall challenge of small arms and light weapons, there are a number of issues where further exchanges of information and consultation among EAPC nations may enhance the overall effectiveness of existing controls in this field, possibly facilitating common approaches.

6. In short, the EAPC Ad Hoc Working Group and the Political-Military Steering Committee are established bodies meeting regularly to coordinate activities, provide practical assistance, develop programmes and exchange views on how best to meet the challenges of small arms and light weapons within established norms and standards in the Euro-Atlantic area.

EAPC/PfP contribution to the United Nations Conference on the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects

Introduction

1. The excessive and destabilizing accumulation of small arms and light weapons and their widespread availability in many regions of the world constitute a threat to peace and stability. This is an issue of legitimate concern for the international community, and the States members of the Euro-Atlantic Partnership Council have clearly identified the challenge presented by the lack of control on small arms and light weapons in crisis regions of the Euro-Atlantic area. Easy to acquire and to use, they are a significant factor in exacerbating and prolonging violence in current armed conflicts.

2. The 2001 United Nations Conference on the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects is the focal point of all international efforts to strengthen and develop coordinated and comprehensive global action to prevent and reduce the proliferation and misuse of small arms and light weapons. It is the objective of NATO/EAPC member States to make a valid contribution to the global effort in tackling the issue of small arms and light weapons, working closely with other international organizations involved.

Background

3. The first reference to small arms control appeared in the Euro-Atlantic Partnership Council (EAPC) Action Plan for 1998-2000, adopted in January 1998, in which consultations on expert meetings were encouraged in the particular field. One year later, the NATO Washington Summit Communiqué included (para. 23) the control over transfer of small arms among the new areas of cooperation between the Alliance and its partners. During the Euro-Atlantic Partnership Council meeting at the summit level which was held in Washington on 25 April 1999, the EAPC Heads of State and Government welcomed the creation of an open-ended ad hoc working group to examine how EAPC might contribute to controlling the transfer of small arms and light weapons.

4. The first meeting of the Ad Hoc Working Group on Small Arms and Light Weapons convened on 28 May 1999. Focusing on the issue of small arms and light weapons in crisis regions of the Euro-Atlantic area, the Group realized that in many cases huge stockpiles are stored in military arsenals and that there is a significant risk that those weapons could be spread. The comparative advantage of EAPC/PfP in addressing these issues lies in its capability to bring its structure, procedures and experience to bear to find potential solutions to tackle some of the main sources of illicit arms/insecure weapons storage in military units, and surplus equipment. Three types of action were identified aiming at reducing small arms to an appropriate level, in terms of defence and security needs; managing and securing these stockpiles; and preventing the illegal transfer of the surplus.

5. On this basis the Working Group adopted a work programme in July 1999. The work programme set out three specific areas:

(a) Stockpile management and security, and destruction of surplus stocks;

(b) National export control, mechanisms, enforcement and arms embargoes;

(c) Peacekeeping training and development.

6. The Ad Hoc Working Group agreed at an early stage that discussions on potential EAPC/PfP activities in the area of small arms and light weapons should aim at adding value to and supplementing existing activities in order to avoid duplication and overlap. They should also take into account the work done in the European Union and in OSCE and take advantage of NATO/EAPC's specific politico-military knowledge and expertise, in particular through the work of the Political-Military Steering Committee on Partnership for Peace. The Ad Hoc Working Group should invite experts from international organizations, academic institutions and NGOs for briefings and exchanges of views.

Scope and objective of activities

7. In November 1999, after several substantive meetings, the Ad Hoc Working Group submitted a report to EAPC which contained proposals for activities within EAPC and the Partnership for Peace programme. These proposed activities built upon the agreed Partnership Work Programme and already existing PfP activities within the various NATO committees and panels which have been opened to Partners. The Ad Hoc Working Group identified three broad areas where there is a significant potential for an enhanced contribution to the challenge of small arms and light weapons and where it will be important to share experiences among EAPC nations and with the United Nations, OSCE, the European Union (EU) and other international organizations. The Group has placed emphasis on the practical character of the initiatives and their relevance to ongoing efforts in conflict prevention as well as in post-conflict situations.

8. The first area concerns generic training, with development of appropriate dialogue and training on best practices related to logistical standards and procedures, stockpile management and security of storage sites, disposal and destruction of surplus stocks, small arms and light weapons collection and destruction including in the context of peace support operations.

9. The second area covers tailored assistance and cooperation with individual nations. The idea is to assist individual nations, upon request, in structuring, organizing and implementing programmes designed to meet the challenge of small arms and light weapons. Activities may include:

- Border control techniques and procedures;
- Stockpile management and security of storage sites;
- Disposal and destruction of surplus and old stocks, including munitions;
- Practical assistance in the development of export control regulations and mechanisms in the field of small arms and light weapons, including common approaches in weapons marking;
- Cooperation as required with customs and police enforcement in the implementation of preventive and reactive measures vis-à-vis illicit trafficking;
- Assistance to regional approaches on specific problems relating to small arms and light weapons.

10. The third area is one of "best practices" related to the transfer of small arms and light weapons. Given the overall challenge of small arms and light weapons, there are a number of issues where further exchange of

information and consultation among EAPC nations may enhance the overall effectiveness of controls in this field, possibly facilitating common approaches with the following general objectives:

- Facilitating information exchange on national export control regimes, including legislation, procedures and enforcement mechanisms;
- Promoting transparency and common approaches towards principles and mechanisms regarding weapons marking, export control and transfers of small arms and light weapons by EAPC nations;
- Improving understanding within EAPC with respect to the interrelationships between the political, military and socio-economic aspects of small arms and light weapons circulation and transfers;
- Facilitating information exchange and transparency on issues related to compliance with international arms embargoes.

11. The Working Group recommended that the first two areas be addressed within the overall framework of the Partnership for Peace. This would be accomplished by building on current activities and establishing additional ones through the creation of a new Partnership Work Programme chapter entitled "The Challenge of Small Arms and Light Weapons".

12. The Working Group further recommended that the third area, best practices related to the transfer of small arms and light weapons, will have to be further examined within EAPC as a very practical and tangible element of overall EAPC cooperation. It was recommended that this examination may take the form of subsequent in-depth consultations as well as participation by EAPC members in relevant workshops and seminars.

Partnership for Peace cooperation in small arms and light weapons

13. In March 2000, the North Atlantic Council and the Euro-Atlantic Partnership Council recognized the need for allied nations and partners to undertake common action in the field of small arms and light weapons. The Partnership for Peace therefore added to its 22 areas of cooperation (among them peacekeeping, civil emergency planning, defence policy and strategy) a new one on small arms and light weapons.

14. This area of cooperation aims at assisting those countries who request it in reducing small arms and light weapons to an appropriate level in terms of defence and internal security needs, managing and securing these stockpiles and preventing illegal transfers of the surplus weapons. For each case, if requested, the country would be assisted by a team of experts. This team of experts would be manned by interested donor nations and would stay in the country for as much time as necessary. Another example of possible cooperation is in the field of safety of storage sites. Expert advice is available for a country which would be interested in establishing appropriate policies, staffing, funding and technical requirements. In particular, a training course in the field of small arms and light weapons stockpile management and security has been developed.

15. In addition, PfP nations have acknowledged that controlling movements of weapons at the borders is a way to prevent small arms and light weapons from pouring into conflict areas or ending up in the hands of civilians. It is therefore proposed to assist countries in establishing appropriate border controls with expertise, training and equipment.

16. Lastly, a PfP Trust Fund for the destruction of anti-personnel landmine stockpiles, surplus munitions and small arms and light weapons has been established. Thanks to this Fund, PfP is now in a position to assist in the destruction of all these items. The Fund operates on a project basis. The project proposal has to come from at least one partner and one allied nation. It has to include the number and type of items to be destroyed, the method of destruction and assessment of costs. If the proposal is accepted by PfP nations, an executing agent and a lead nation will develop a specific proposal for the project, which will then be implemented. The Office of NATO's Financial Controller acts as a treasurer of each project and NATO's Maintenance and Supply Agency (NAMSA) often acts as an executing agent although any other executing agent could be chosen by the lead nation. An executing agent and a lead nation, in conjunction with the partner nation in which the project will take place, will develop a specific proposal for the project which will then be implemented once sufficient funds from interested donors have been identified.

17. So far, the Trust Fund has focused on anti-personnel landmines and surplus munitions in Albania, and similar programmes for the Republic of Moldova

and Ukraine. PfP is ready to consider actively similar assistance to other countries in the field of small arms and light weapons.

Activities within the Ad Hoc Working Group

18. In accordance with the EAPC Action Plan as accepted by EAPC Ambassadors in November 1999, two workshops were organized at NATO headquarters. On 16 and 17 March 2000, EAPC representatives met in a workshop format to discuss the broad topic of export control on small arms and light weapons transfer with three basic objectives:

- To facilitate information exchange on export control regimes;
- To promote transparency and common approaches towards principles and mechanisms regarding export controls and small arms and light weapons transfers;
- To identify appropriate EAPC contributions to international efforts related to small arms and light weapons transfers, taking into account previous EAPC discussions on small arms and light weapons.

19. The Workshop sought to take account of the work accomplished in the development of the European Union s Code of Conduct and the Joint Action Plan on small arms and light weapons, and the OSCE Principles Governing Conventional Arms Transfers, as well as the relevant work that has been undertaken within the Wassenaar Arrangement and the United Nations.

20. The Workshop noted a number of significant national contributions on export control policy and practices, including recent efforts to develop regional and subregional approaches to the challenge of small arms and light weapons. These national contributions focused on a shared view that national legislation and enforcement systems should be established for effective export control of small arms and light weapons, and that possibilities for strengthening international cooperation are closely related to the effectiveness of the national control of small arms and light weapons transfers. National presentations provided an overview of structures and policies that have been established in several new democracies, and included information on bilateral and multilateral assistance programmes related to export control and enforcement activities.

21. A second Workshop was held on 20 and 21 March 2000 to discuss the broad topic of marking and tracing of small arms and light weapons. The objectives were:

- To facilitate information exchange on national practices regarding marking and tracing;
- To promote transparency and common approaches towards principles and mechanisms regarding marking and tracing;
- To identify the appropriate EAPC contribution to international efforts related to establishing an effective regime for small arms and light weapons marking and tracing, taking into account previous EAPC discussions on small arms and light weapons.

22. The Workshop sought to take account of the work accomplished in the development of the OSCE Principles Governing Conventional Arms Transfers, the various initiatives that have been undertaken by NGOs, as well as the relevant work that has taken place within the United Nations.

23. The Workshop noted a number of significant national contributions on marking and tracing, including explanations as to the purpose of marking, common manufacturers' marks, the relevance of marking for law enforcement purposes, the marking of imported and deactivated small arms and light weapons and the possible impact on national systems of the draft provisions of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the supplementary Firearms Protocol. The national contributions included background regarding the importance of a reliable marking system for the industry itself, law enforcement and prosecution, and the prevention and combating of illicit and/or destabilizing accumulations of small arms and light weapons.

24. EAPC representatives met again on 21 November 2000 to discuss export control of small arms and light weapons in the EAPC area with experts. This workshop was part of the continuation of a more focused discussion related to the transfer of small arms and light weapons initiated by the EAPC workshops of 16-17 and 20-21 March 2000. The three basic objectives of the Workshop were as follows:

- To take stock of the work accomplished or undertaken in the United Nations, OSCE, the European Union, the Wassenaar Arrangement and recent initiatives of the Stability Pact;
- To identify the appropriate EAPC contribution to international efforts related to small arms and light weapons transfers, taking into account previous EAPC discussions on small arms and light weapons;
- To discuss with export control officials the preparation and processing of end-use and delivery of control certification, practical aspects of border and customs control procedures and documentation, techniques and equipment used for control of small arms and light weapons transfers.

25. The Workshop sought to take account of the United Nations agenda, the OSCE Document on Small Arms and Light Weapons, the European Union Code of Conduct and the Joint Action Plan on Small Arms and Light Weapons, the Wassenaar Arrangement as well as the activities on small arms and light weapons driven by Working Table III of the Stability Pact for South-Eastern Europe.

26. The workshop provided a useful opportunity to focus on the specification of export controls on small arms and light weapons. Experts from capitals discussed practical aspects of export control activities the EAPC countries are engaged in.

27. Efforts of the EAPC Ad Hoc Working Group complement other endeavours on small arms and light weapons within NATO, such as a NATO-Russia Permanent Joint Council Working Group on Peacekeeping which, inter alia, develops common practical approaches to arms collection in the context of peacekeeping operations, and the Mediterranean Coordination Group consultation on small arms and light weapons.

28. Issues related to small arms and light weapons are also addressed in the framework of the NATO/South-East Europe Initiative, as defined by the South-East Europe Security Cooperation Steering Group (SEEGROUP) Action Plan 2000-2001.

29. The Ad Hoc Working Group on Prospects for Regional Cooperation in South-East Europe conducted a theme-centred discussion on issues of small arms and light weapons on the basis of a presentation by the Coordinator of the OSCE Document on Small Arms and Light Weapons.

30. The EAPC Ad Hoc Working Group on Prospects for Regional Cooperation in the Caucasus is considering initiatives to include small arms and light weapons issues as potential areas for practical regional cooperation in the Caucasus. In the meantime, there is no consensus on this issue among the countries concerned.

31. NATO and the EAPC member States have maintained very close liaison with OSCE during the negotiations in the Forum for Security Cooperation that have led to the adoption of the OSCE milestone document on small arms and light weapons. EAPC will promote and support implementation of the document's provision by members of the EAPC countries.

Role of the NATO Parliamentary Assembly

32. The NATO Parliamentary Assembly, as an inter-parliamentary forum for NATO members and associated partners, has actively addressed and studied small arms control through its meetings, seminars and reports. During the 46th Rose-Roth seminar, held in Portoroz, Slovenia, from 4 to 6 May 2000, parliamentarians from Central and Eastern Europe and international experts debated the non-proliferation challenge, the future of arms control and notably the issue of small arms and light weapons in the South-Eastern Europe region.

33. The problem of small arms and light weapons remains high in the agenda of the NATO Parliamentary Assembly, with the Science and Technology Committee presenting resolution 303 on Small Arms Control (see appendix I).

Conclusions

34. With regard to small arms and light weapons issues in the Euro-Atlantic area, EAPC is a very important player, considering its expertise, its ability to cooperate with other international organizations in South-Eastern Europe and its relations with Central and Eastern European countries and countries of the Commonwealth of Independent States through EAPC and PfP. EAPC's sustained efforts in the area of small

arms and light weapons contribute to the synergy of efforts among all competent organizations to address the illicit transfer of these weapons.

35. Participating States will use EAPC and PfP to contribute to the regional implementation of the forthcoming programme of activities to be agreed at the United Nations Conference on small arms and light weapons and of the OSCE Document. They will closely liaise with the United Nations, OSCE and other relevant organizations and forums in order to exchange information, optimize cooperation and mutual assistance and avoid unnecessary duplication.

Appendix I

NATO Parliamentary Assembly resolution 303 on Small Arms Control

The Assembly,

1. **Aware** that small arms and light weapons have been the most preferred combat tools in most conflicts that have broken out since the end of the cold war, and that approximately 50 per cent of those killed or wounded by these weapons are civilians,

2. **Conscious** that small arms, although highly lethal, are very cheap, highly mobile, easy to acquire, use, trade and conceal, and extremely durable,

3. **Concerned** that, until recently, most initiatives to control small arms diffusion, curb illegal trafficking and promote transparency in international transfers have not been very successful, and that the existing volume of small arms stocks in uncontrolled circulation throughout the world, and especially in crisis areas, constitutes an even greater problem than their production and trade,

4. **Convinced** that the increasing use and acquisition of military-style weapons by civilians cannot be justified by sports-related or self-defence purposes,

5. **Disturbed** by the fact that the light weight and small size of modern weapons has made it possible for combatants, especially in developing countries, to force children to become soldiers,

6. **Welcoming** all the initiatives of the United Nations to address the problem of small arms diffusion — at both global and regional levels — as well as the efforts of various international organizations, such as the European Union, OSCE, the Council of Europe and OECD, and of non-governmental organizations, such as the International Committee of the Red Cross,

7. **Praising** the role of NATO, through SFOR and KFOR, in the control, seizure and destruction of small arms in the Balkans, and the adoption by the Euro-Atlantic Partnership Council (EAPC) of a programme for small arms control,

8. **URGES** member Governments and parliaments of the North Atlantic Alliance:

(a) To support international efforts to control the diffusion of small arms, to avoid duplication and overlaps, and to identify possible gaps not covered by current initiatives on the global, regional and subregional levels;

(b) To strengthen existing national export-control legislation to prevent the resale of small arms;

(c) To restrict licences for small arms manufacture in certain non-Allied countries;

(d) To harmonize national approaches through wider acceptance and application of guidelines and codes of conduct, such as the EU Code of Conduct, effective application of arms embargoes, and enhanced evaluation of recipient States' records with regard to adherence to international humanitarian law and control over stocks and flows of small arms;

(e) To consider indelible marking of small arms or other technologies to enhance their identification and traceability and to work towards the preparation of an international agreement on the subject;

(f) To increase transparency in small arms manufacture and trade weapons by:

(i) Enlarging the United Nations Register of Conventional Arms in order to give an indication of flows and excessive accumulation of small arms;

(ii) Creating, in a context that can guarantee commercial discretion, a system of prior notification and consultation on arms transfers: both the United Nations Register and the EU notification systems should be strengthened in this sense;

(iii) Improving data and information sharing among States on illegal manufacturing and trafficking of small arms, eventually centralizing information in an appropriate forum, such as Interpol or Europol;

(g) To identify existing stocks and surpluses by requiring from States more transparency with regard to the holding of small arms;

(h) To enhance the capacity, in certain crisis regions, to monitor the illicit production and trafficking of small arms, and to assist State authorities and police forces in those regions;

(i) To improve storage and security of their own weapons stocks and assist other States in doing so;

(j) To develop programmes for the collection and destruction of small arms in States or regions emerging from conflict;

(k) To establish legislation prohibiting civilian possession of military-style weapons;

(l) To encourage concerted efforts and cooperation between the different activities and for dealing with small arms in the Balkans, notably the United Nations, the European Union, OSCE, NATO, EAPC and the Stability Pact. The regional approach to small arms diffusion in the Balkans should include:

(i) Promoting the EU Code of Conduct and inviting countries in the region to accept it and incorporate its provisions into their national control systems;

(ii) Intensifying law enforcement activities (especially in Kosovo), including searches, seizures and destruction of arms deposits and caches;

(iii) Providing the countries in the region with financial and technical assistance for activities and projects in the field of small arms control;

(m) To encourage all possible efforts and international cooperation to avoid the recruitment of children as soldiers in armed conflicts;

(n) To report back to the Science and Technology Committee of the NATO Parliamentary Assembly on what steps individual member Governments have taken to comply with subparagraphs (b), (e), (i) and (k) of this resolution.

Appendix II

Seminars and workshops organized by EAPC member States

1. On 2 and 3 December 1999, the Governments of Bulgaria and the Netherlands organized at The Hague a Seminar on Strengthening Stockpile Management and Transparency of Small Arms and Light Weapons in the framework of EAPC.

2. On 14 and 15 December 1999, Bulgaria hosted a Regional Conference on Export Controls under the auspices of the Stability Pact for South-Eastern Europe, co-sponsored by the Government of the United States of America. The Conference issued a Joint Declaration on Responsible Arms Transfers and a Statement on Harmonization of End-Use/End-User Certificates.

3. On 16 and 17 March 2000, the Government of Switzerland organized in the framework of EAPC/PfP a Workshop on Stockpile Management and Security of Small Arms and Light Weapons in Thun, Switzerland.

4. On 17 and 18 March 2000, a seminar on controlling flows of small arms and light weapons was held at Jablonna, near Warsaw. The seminar was organized by Saferworld (London), the Institute of Public Affairs (Warsaw) and co-hosted by the Polish Ministry for Foreign Affairs.

5. On 22 and 23 June 2000, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia[a] hosted a Workshop in support of the South-Eastern Europe Initiative, on the subject of "Regional Cooperation in South-Eastern Europe and the Challenge of Small Arms and Light Weapons". The workshop was jointly organized by the host Government and Switzerland and addressed the following three topics:

- Effective border control and law enforcement regulations;
- End-use certificates in export control;
- Collection and destruction of small arms and light weapons.

The workshop highlighted the problems related to the destabilizing proliferation of small arms in South-Eastern Europe and provided the opportunity to build consensus on a number of practical regional measures concerning, notably, the collection and destruction of small arms.

6. On 18 and 19 September 2000, the Governments of Poland and Canada organized a seminar in Warsaw to address the issue of small arms disarmament within the context of peacekeeping operations.

7. On 28 and 29 September 2000, the Governments of the Netherlands and Hungary organized at The Hague an Expert Workshop on destruction of small arms and light weapons related to stockpile management and weapons collection in post-conflict situations.

8. From 16 to 19 October 2000, the Stability Pact for South-Eastern Europe and the Governments of Bulgaria and Canada organized at Sofia a Seminar on Collection and Destruction Techniques for Small Arms and Light Weapons.

9. On 20 and 21 October, the Czech Ministry for Foreign Affairs, Saferworld and

[a] Turkey recognizes the Republic of Macedonia with its constitutional name.

the Institute of International Relations held a seminar in the Czech Republic on improving accountability and transparency in relation to production transfers and holding of arms in an enlarged European Union.

10. On 7 November 2000, the Canadian joint delegation to NATO and the Centre for European Security and Disarmament organized a round table on small arms and Euro-Atlantic security at NATO headquarters.

11. On 17 and 18 November 2000, the Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Hungary, Saferworld and the Szeged Centre for Security Policy organized a round table at Szeged, Hungary, on "Tackling Small Arms Diffusion in South-Eastern Europe: towards a subregional action programme on small arms in the context of the Stability Pact".

12. On 12 and 13 March 2001, France and Switzerland organized a workshop in Geneva on the traceability of small arms and light weapons to include marking, tracing and record-keeping.

13. On 26 and 27 April 2001, the Governments of Hungary and Canada held a seminar in Budapest on arms embargoes and sanctions.

14. On 15 and 16 May, Canada and the European Union, under the Swedish presidency, will organize a workshop in Canada on small arms and light weapons destruction in the context of peace-support operations.

15. From 28 May to 1 June, the Government of Switzerland will organize a training course on stockpile security and management of small arms and light weapons, open to all EAPC countries.

16. On 21 and 22 June 2001, Switzerland and Azerbaijan organized a workshop on small arms and light weapons on the subject "Practical Challenges for the Implementation of Current Undertakings in OSCE and EAPC" in Baku. This workshop offered the possibility to exchange views on how nations implement or plan to implement the new commitments agreed upon at the Forum for Security Cooperation in November 2000. The following topics were addressed:

- Manufacturing, marking and record-keeping;
- Combating illicit trafficking: common export criteria and export controls;
- The small arms and light weapons dimension in early warning, conflict prevention, crisis management and post-conflict rehabilitation.